NEWS RELEASE

ROYAL GOLD, INC

World Class Royalty Company

Royal Gold Adds Key Personnel In Areas Of Finance And Engineering
3/23/2006
DENVER, COLORADO. MARCH 23, 2006: ROYAL GOLD, INC. NASDAQ:RGLD; TSX:RGL), the leading precious metals royalty company, today announced the addition of two key members to its company team. William H. Heissenbuttel has been hired as Manager of Corporate Development and Richard D. Moritz has been brought on as the Company's Technical Manager.

Mr. Heissenbuttel most recently served as a Senior Vice President at N M Rothschild & Sons (Denver) Inc. and brings more than 18 years of project and corporate finance experience with 11 of those years in the metals and mining industry. In his new role at the Company, he will be involved in generating new business and royalty financing opportunities. Heissenbuttel holds a Master of Business Administration degree with a specialization in finance from the University of Chicago. He will join the Company on April 10, 2006.

Mr. Moritz, a former consultant to the Company with over 25 years of extensive mining engineering and management experience, will provide technical expertise to both the operations and business development sides of the Company. He holds an undergraduate degree in Mining Engineering, as well as a Master of Business Administration degree, from the University of Nevada in Reno, Nevada.

"We are extremely pleased to add such high-quality individuals to the Royal Gold team," said Tony Jensen, President and Chief Operating Officer, commenting on the new hires. "Their knowledge and professional expertise in the fields of finance and engineering complements that of our existing management team and will further enhance our ability to expand our royalty portfolio."

Royal Gold is a precious metals royalty company engaging in the acquisition and management of precious metals royalty interests. Royal Gold is publicly traded on the NASDAQ National Market System, under the symbol "RGLD" and on the Toronto Stock Exchange, under the symbol "RGL." The Company's web page is located at www.royalgold.com.